

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-21 (canceled)

22. (previously presented) An apparatus for delivering a sanitizing solution to a surface, the apparatus comprising:

an electrolytic cell;

an electrical power source;

a circuit which enables the transfer of power from said power source to said electrolytic cell in order to produce at least one oxidant within said electrolytic cell;

a substantially portable container;

a connection between said electrolytic cell and said container, wherein said connection enables the at least one oxidant to combine with a substance in the container, thereby forming the sanitizing solution; and

an opening in said container through which the sanitizing solution is delivered.

23. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 22 wherein said opening is sealable.

24. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 22 wherein said container comprises a spray bottle.

25. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 22 further comprising pumping means.

26. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 25 wherein said pumping means comprises a sprayer head.

27. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 26 wherein said sprayer head comprises a spray nozzle.

28. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 25 wherein said pumping means comprises said electrolytic cell.

29. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 25 wherein said pumping means comprises a handle.

30. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 22 wherein said electrolytic cell and said power source comprise a module attached to said container.

31. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 30 wherein said module is removable from said container.

32. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 22 further comprising a base for supporting said container.

33. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 32 wherein said base comprises said electrolytic cell.

34. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 33 wherein said base comprises said power source.

35. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 22 wherein the substance comprises a fluid.

36. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 35 wherein the fluid comprises an aqueous solution.

37. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 35 wherein the fluid is water.

38. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 25 wherein said connection comprises a valve.

39. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 25 wherein said valve is opened in response to a pressure of gas produced in said electrolytic cell.

40. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 25 wherein said connection comprises a fluid-tight seal.

41. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 22 wherein said electrolytic cell utilizes an electrolyte comprising sodium chloride to produce the at least one oxidant.

42. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 22 wherein said electrolytic cell utilizes an electrolyte comprising sodium chlorite to produce the at least one oxidant.

43. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 22 wherein said sanitizing solution comprises a free available chlorine concentration of sufficient value to sanitize an object.

44. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 22 wherein the at least one oxidant comprises at least one member selected from the group consisting of mixed oxidants, chlorine, chlorine dioxide, and combinations thereof.

45. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 22 further comprising a system activation button and one or more status indicator lights.

46. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 45 wherein said one or more indicator lights are activated in response to a concentration of free available chlorine in the sanitizing solution.

47. (previously presented) A method of sanitizing a surface, the method comprising the steps of:

- providing electrolyte and power to an electrolytic cell;
- producing at least one oxidant in the electrolytic cell;
- transferring the at least one oxidant to a substance in a substantially portable container,

thereby forming a sanitizing solution; and

- delivering the sanitizing solution to the surface.

48. (previously presented) The method of claim 47 wherein the delivering step comprises pumping the sanitizing solution out of the container.

49. (previously presented) The method of claim 47 wherein the delivering step comprises spraying the sanitizing solution on the surface.

50. (previously presented) The method of claim 47 wherein the delivering step comprises removing the container from a base comprising the electrolytic cell.

51. (previously presented) The method of claim 47 wherein the substance comprises a fluid.

52. (previously presented) The method of claim 51 wherein the fluid comprises an aqueous solution.

53. (previously presented) The method of claim 51 wherein the fluid is water.

54. (previously presented) The method of claim 47 wherein the transferring step comprises opening a valve.

55. (previously presented) The method of claim 54 wherein the valve is opened in response to a pressure of gas produced in the electrolytic cell.

56. (previously presented) The method of claim 47 wherein the providing step comprises charging a battery.

57. (previously presented) The method of claim 47 wherein the providing step comprises replacing a battery.

58. (previously presented) The method of claim 47 wherein the electrolyte comprises sodium chloride.

59. (previously presented) The method of claim 47 wherein the electrolyte comprises sodium chlorite.

60. (previously presented) The method of claim 47 wherein the transferring step comprises raising the free available chlorine concentration of the substance to a value sufficient to sanitize an object.

61. (previously presented) The method of claim 47 wherein the at least one oxidant is selected from the group consisting of mixed oxidants, chlorine, chlorine dioxide, and combinations thereof.

62. (previously presented) The method of claim 47 further comprising monitoring the free available chlorine concentration of the sanitizing solution.

63. (new) The apparatus of claim 22 wherein said container is reversibly detachable from said electrolytic cell.

64. (new) The method of claim 47 further comprising the step of detaching the container from the electrolytic cell.

65. (new) The method of claim 64 further comprising the step of transporting the container to the surface.

66. (new) The method of claim 65 further comprising the step of reattaching the container to the electrolytic cell.

67. (new) The method of claim 64 further comprising the step of adding the substance to the container.

68. (new) The method of claim 67 further comprising the step of reattaching the container to the electrolytic cell.